

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-24. (Canceled)

25. (Currently amended) A method of providing percutaneous access, said method comprising:

inserting a guidewire into or through the renal collection system,

percutaneously inserting an elongate tubular structure having a first, smaller cross-sectional profile over the guidewire and into the renal collection system;

expanding said elongate tubular structure from said first, smaller cross-sectional profile to a second, greater cross-sectional profile; and

releasing the elongate tubular structure from a constraining tubular jacket, wherein releasing the elongate tubular structure from the constraining tubular jacket comprises tearing said tubular jacket along a perforation.

26. (Original) The method of Claim 25, additionally comprising the step of inflating a balloon to expand said elongate tubular structure from said first, smaller cross-sectional profile to said second, greater cross-sectional profile.

27. (Original) The method of Claim 26, wherein the inflating a balloon step is accomplished using a balloon catheter positioned within the tubular body.

28. (Original) The method of Claim 26, wherein the inflating a balloon step comprises radially expanding said balloon.

29. (Original) The method of Claim 26, further comprising the step of removing the balloon from the tubular structure following the expanding steps.

30. (Original) The method of Claim 25, wherein the step of expanding said elongate tubular structure comprises unfolding the elongate tubular structure.

31. (Original) The method of Claim 25, wherein the expanding said elongate tubular structure step comprises radially expanding said elongate tubular structure.

32. (Canceled)

33. (Canceled)

34. (Original) The method of Claim 25, wherein said releasing the elongate tubular structure from the tubular jacket step comprises separating said tubular jacket along a longitudinal axis of said jacket.

35. **(Original)** The method of Claim 34, further comprising removing the tubular jacket from the elongate tubular structure.

36. **(Original)** The method of Claim 34, wherein the tubular jacket remains attached to the tubular elongate tubular structure.

37. **(Original)** The method of Claim 25, further comprising removing the tubular jacket from the elongate tubular structure.

38. **(Original)** The method of Claim 25, wherein the tubular jacket remains attached to the tubular elongate tubular structure.

39-46. **(Canceled)**

47. **(Currently amended)** A method of providing percutaneous access, said method comprising:

inserting a guidewire into or through the renal collection system,

percutaneously inserting an elongate tubular structure having a first, smaller cross-sectional profile over the guidewire and into the renal collection system, the tubular structure having a beveled distal tip;

expanding said elongate tubular structure from said first, smaller cross-sectional profile to a second, greater cross-sectional profile; and

releasing the elongate tubular structure from a constraint, wherein releasing the elongate tubular structure from a constraint comprises tearing said constraint along a perforation.

48. **(Previously presented)** The method of Claim 47, additionally comprising the step of inflating a balloon to expand said elongate tubular structure from said first, smaller cross-sectional profile to said second, greater cross-sectional profile.

49. **(Previously presented)** The method of Claim 48, wherein the inflating a balloon step is accomplished using a balloon catheter positioned within the tubular body.

50. **(Previously presented)** The method of Claim 48, wherein the inflating a balloon step comprises radially expanding said balloon.

51. **(Previously presented)** The method of Claim 48, further comprising the step of removing the balloon from the tubular structure following the expanding steps.

52. **(Previously presented)** The method of Claim 47, wherein the step of expanding said elongate tubular structure comprises unfolding the elongate tubular structure.

53. **(Previously presented)** The method of Claim 47, wherein the expanding said elongate tubular structure step comprises radially expanding said elongate tubular structure.

54. **(Canceled)**

55. **(Canceled)**

56. **(Previously presented)** The method of Claim 47, wherein said releasing the elongate tubular structure from the constraint step comprises separating said constraint along a longitudinal axis of said constraint.

57. **(Previously presented)** The method of Claim 47, further comprising removing the constraint from the elongate tubular structure.

58. **(Previously presented)** The method of Claim 56, wherein the constraint remains attached to the elongate tubular structure.

59. **(Previously presented)** The method of Claim 47, wherein the releasing step comprises removing a tubular jacket from the elongate tubular structure.

60. **(New)** A method of providing percutaneous access, said method comprising:

inserting a guidewire into or through the renal collection system,

percutaneously inserting an elongate tubular structure having a first, smaller cross-sectional profile over the guidewire and into the renal collection system;

expanding said elongate tubular structure from said first, smaller cross-sectional profile to a second, greater cross-sectional profile; and

releasing the elongate tubular structure from a constraining tubular jacket, wherein releasing the elongate tubular structure from the tubular jacket comprises tearing said tubular jacket along a score line.

61. **(New)** The method of Claim 60, additionally comprising the step of inflating a balloon to expand said elongate tubular structure from said first, smaller cross-sectional profile to said second, greater cross-sectional profile.

62. **(New)** The method of Claim 61, wherein the inflating a balloon step is accomplished using a balloon catheter positioned within the tubular body.

63. (New) The method of Claim 61, wherein the inflating a balloon step comprises radially expanding said balloon.

64. (New) The method of Claim 61, further comprising the step of removing the balloon from the tubular structure following the expanding steps.

65. (New) The method of Claim 60, wherein the step of expanding said elongate tubular structure comprises unfolding the elongate tubular structure.

66. (New) The method of Claim 60, wherein the expanding said elongate tubular structure step comprises radially expanding said elongate tubular structure.

67. (New) The method of Claim 60, wherein said releasing the elongate tubular structure from the tubular jacket step comprises separating said tubular jacket along a longitudinal axis of said jacket.

68. (New) The method of Claim 67, further comprising removing the tubular jacket from the elongate tubular structure.

69. (New) The method of Claim 67, wherein the tubular jacket remains attached to the tubular elongate tubular structure.

70. (New) The method of Claim 60, further comprising removing the tubular jacket from the elongate tubular structure.

71. (New) The method of Claim 60, wherein the tubular jacket remains attached to the tubular elongate tubular structure.

72. (New) A method of providing percutaneous access, said method comprising:

inserting a guidewire into or through the renal collection system,

percutaneously inserting an elongate tubular structure having a first, smaller cross-sectional profile over the guidewire and into the renal collection system, the tubular structure having a beveled distal tip;

expanding said elongate tubular structure from said first, smaller cross-sectional profile to a second, greater cross-sectional profile; and

releasing the elongate tubular structure from a constraint, wherein releasing the elongate tubular structure from the constraint comprises tearing said constraint along a score line.

73. (New) The method of Claim 72, additionally comprising the step of inflating a balloon to expand said elongate tubular structure from said first, smaller cross-sectional profile to said second, greater cross-sectional profile.

74. (New) The method of Claim 73, wherein the inflating a balloon step is accomplished using a balloon catheter positioned within the tubular body.

75. (New) The method of Claim 73, wherein the inflating a balloon step comprises radially expanding said balloon.

76. (New) The method of Claim 73, further comprising the step of removing the balloon from the tubular structure following the expanding steps.

77. (New) The method of Claim 72, wherein the step of expanding said elongate tubular structure comprises unfolding the elongate tubular structure.

78. (New) The method of Claim 72, wherein the expanding said elongate tubular structure step comprises radially expanding said elongate tubular structure.

79. (New) The method of Claim 72, wherein said releasing the elongate tubular structure from the constraint step comprises separating said constraint along a longitudinal axis of said constraint.

80. (New) The method of Claim 72, further comprising removing the constraint from the elongate tubular structure.

81. (New) The method of Claim 80, wherein the constraint remains attached to the elongate tubular structure.

82. (New) The method of Claim 72, wherein the releasing step comprises removing a tubular jacket from the elongate tubular structure.